

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 05673 221552Z

44

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 MC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03 AID-05 IGA-01

EB-07 H-02 ACDA-05 PRS-01 /071 W

----- 033005

R 221156Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5428

INFO DOD

EUCOM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T AMMAN 5673

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, IS, SA

SUBJ: JORDANIAN REQUEST FOR TROOP-CARRYING HELICOPTERS

REF: A) STATE 194935 B) MAP AMMAN 1756 C) SECDEF 5262

1. WE HAVE NO STRONG OBJECTION TO DEPARTMENT'S SUGGESTION PER PARA 2 REFTEL THAT DOD AND DEPT TELL JORDANIANS TO LAY OFF LARGE COMMERCIAL HELICOPTER DEAL FOR THE PRESENT. WE WILL ALSO INFORM JORDANIANS HERE IF SUBJECT SURFACES PRIOR TO RESOLUTION OF HAWK PROBLEM. HOWEVER, WE SINCERELY DOUBT THAT JORDANIANS WILL TAKE ANY POSITIVE ACTION PRIOR TO OCTOBER AT EARLIEST; THEREFORE, APPROACH TO THEM IS PROBABLY UNNECESSARY. MEANWHILE, WE THINK DEPT (MC) SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT PROVIDE ADVISORY OPINION, BUT CONTINUE TO "STUDY" THE MATTER.

2. TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE GOJ STILL PREFERS FMS. ACCORDING TO JAF OFFICIALS, THEY HAVE NEVER APPROACHED SIKORSKY OR BOEING ON MATTER OF HEAVY LIFT HELICOPTERS. INITIATIVE WAS ALWAYS TAKEN BY INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES WHO

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 AMMAN 05673 221552Z

OFFERED TO PRESENT DEMONSTRATIONS, BRIEFINGS AND PROPOSALS.

FOR THIS REASON, AS RECENTLY AS A WEEK AGO, CHIEF OF STAFF IN CONVERSATION WITH DATT FELT STRONGLY THAT OPTION IS STILL OPEN TO GO FMS IF, AND ITS A BIG IF, JORDAN DECIDES TO MAKE A PURCHASE. AT SAME TIME HE STATED THAT AT PRESENT THEY DID NOT INTEND TO DO ANYTHING BECAUSE THEY DID NOT HAVE ANY AVAILABLE FUNDS. THIS POSITION WAS REINFORCED WHEN SIKORSKY TEAM(AT PRESIDENTIAL LEVEL) WAS LEFT COOLING THEIR HEELS FOR FIVE DAYS LAST WEEK WHEN THEY TRIED TO MAKE THEIR LATEST AND FINAL PROPOSAL OF SOME \$120 M TO SOME HIGH-RANKING JORDANIAN OFFICIALS. SIKORSKY DID NOT ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH DAO OFFICE ON THIS VISIT, BUT TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE THEY FINALLY SAW RJAF COMMANDER AND PRESENTED THEIR PROPOSAL.

3. FEEL FAIRLY CERTAIN THAT WHEN AND IF JAF MAKES DECISION THEY WILL MAKE OFFICIAL REQUEST FOR P&A DATA OR LOA UNDER FMS. AT SAME TIME, FUNDING OF THIS MAGNITUDE WOULD HAVE TO COME FROM THIRD PARTY, PROBABLY SAUDI ARABIA, AND IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THEY WILL FIRST GET FUNDING FOR AIR DEFENSE IN HAND BEFORE THEY HIT SAUDIS FOR ANOTHER MAJOR WEAPONS SYSTEM.

4. AS FOR MILITARY REQUIREMENTS FOR 12-20 HEAVY LIFT HELICOPTERS, WE CANNOT PROVIDE RATIONALE FOR NUMBERS BECAUSE WE SINCERELY DOUBT EVEN JAF COULD DO THAT. WHEN SOMEONE ELSE IS PICKING UP TAB, JAF WOULD PROBABLY NEGOTIATE FOR AS MANY AS THEY THOUGH THE TRAFFIC WOULD BEAR.

5. GOJ INTEREST IN HEAVY LIFT HELICOPTERS IS NOT NEW AND GOES BACK TO AUGUST 1973 WHEN KING CANCELLED ORDER FOR UH-1H'S AND STATED EVENTUALLY HE WOULD WANT HEAVY LIFT HELICOPTERS FROM U.S. THERE IS UNDOUBTEDLY A JUSTIFICATION FOR SOME HEAVY LIFT HELICOPTERS IN FULFILLING INTERNAL SECURITY, RESUPPLY MISSIONS, MEDIVAC AND EMERGENCY TAKS, AND BORDER PATROL MISSION (CURRENT ALLOUETTES ARE NOT SUITABLE AND ARE PRE-EMPTED MAINLY FOR VIP FLIGHTS.) ALSO, JORDANIANS MAY ENVISAGE POSSIBLE FUTURE MISSION FOR HELICOPTERS IN CONNECTION WITH JORDAN'S SECURITY ACTIVITIES ON ARABIAN PENINSULA.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 AMMAN 05673 221552Z

6. WE RECOGNIZE HOWEVER THAT ADVERSE PUBLICITY COULD BE MADE OF HELICOPTER DEAL BY OPPONENTS OF HAWK. THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IN VIEW OF JULY 11 STATEMENT REGARDING HELICOPTERS MADE BY KING HUSSEIN IN INTERVIEW WITH BEIRUT WEEKLY, AL HAWADETH: "...WE ARE TRYING TO BUY BIG TRANSPORTATION HELICOPTERS CAPABLE TO TRANSPORT REGIMENTS; WHEN WE GET THEM, CROSSING RIVER JORDAN

WOULD BECOME EASY." EVEN THOUGH THIS MAY NOT BE KING'S PRIMARY MISSION FOR HELICOPTERS, POSSIBLE OPPONENTS OF SALE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY LATCH ON TO THIS STATEMENT AND OTHER POSSIBLE AND MORE LIKELY MISSIONS WILL FALL ON DEAF EARS.

7. WE WOULD HOPE TO REASSESS THIS SUBJECT FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF THE HAWK CONTROVERSY.  
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY PROCUREMENT, HELICOPTERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975AMMAN05673  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750291-0741  
**From:** AMMAN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750824/aaaaauyg.tel  
**Line Count:** 124  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION PM  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 194935, 75 AMMAN 1756  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 AUG 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <28 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JORDANIAN REQUEST FOR TROOP-CARRYING HELICOPTERS  
**TAGS:** MASS, JO, IS, SA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006